

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 01827 041554Z
ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 IO-14 L-03
NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 NRC-07 /165 W
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2367
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME

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USICA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJ: DUTCH VIEWS ON DISARMAMENT--EDITORIAL COMMENT

1. THE FULL TEXT OF THE EDITORIAL TRANSMITTED HERE IS FROM THE
MARCH 29 HAARLEMS DAGBLAD, A LIBERAL DAILY PAPER. BITTERLY
WRITTEN, IT STILL CARRIES A FLAVOR OF SOME PREVAILING DUTCH VIEWS
ON DISARMAMENT, LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH NATO ALLIES BY THE
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PAGE 02 THE HA 01827 041554Z

LEADING ALLIANCE NATIONS AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST THE ER/RB.

TEXT FOLLOWS: "DISGUST FORBIDDEN"

"ONE OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S BIGGEST RECENT WORRIES IS THE
QUESTION OF DEFENSE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ARMS RACE.
LIKE (NEARLY) ALL U.S. PRESIDENTS OF THIS CENTURY CARTER
STARTED OFFICE AS A "MAN OF PEACE", AN IMAGE WHICH HE GAINED

DURING HIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HE SOON DISCOVERED, JUST AS (NEARLY) ALL HIS PREDECESSORS THAT 'PEACE', ACCORDING TO U.S. VIEWPOINTS, HAS TWO SIDES: THE DISCUSSION OF DISARMAMENT, AND THE SPEEDING UP OF ARMAMENT.

3. THE NOTORIOUS SALT TALKS AND ALL OTHER ATTEMPTS TO REACH BY AGREEMENT A STOP TO THE ARMS RACE WERE COMPULSORY TASK WITH AN EYE ON WORLD OPINION, BUT THE SPEEDING UP OF THE ARMAMENT, ESPECIALLY THE PRODUCTION OF HANDIER, DIRECTER AND MORE EFFICIENT MEANS OF DESTRUCTION, WAS UNAVLIDABLE IN ORDER TO KEEP GOING THE STRATEGY OF DETERRENCE AND THREATS IN REGARD TO COMMUNIST AGGRESSION, AND TO GIVE U.S. ALLIES, PARTICULARLY IN EUROPE, A SAFE FEELING.

4. THERE IS THUS NO REASON AT ALL TO BELIEVE THAT THE STRATEGISTS IN WASHINGTON WHO PULL THE STRINGS BEHIND AND AROUND CARTER EVER SERIOUSLY THOUGHT OF THE POSSIBILITY OF NOT PRODUCING THE NEUTRON GRENADE. THE ALMOST GROTESQUE GAME OF TALKING THE ALLIES INTO THE NEUTRON BOMB REALLY ONLY HAS MET SPELL-BREAKERS IN HOLLAND, BUT SEEING THAT IN NATO AND IN WASHINGTON ATTENTION IS NEVER PAID ANY MORE TO DUTCH OPINION, SINCE OUR MODERN 'FATER OF OUR FATHERLAND LUNS HAS BEEN WITHIN REACH, THE NEGATIVE DUTCH REACTION DIDN'T BOTHER ANYONE. THERE WAS IN FACT ANOTHER PROBLEM: WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE BY THREATENING TO INSTALL THE NEUTRON BOMB IN EUROPE,

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PAGE 03 THE HA 01827 041554Z

TO GET THE EAST BLOC TO MAKE CONCESSIONS?

5. FOR THIS REASON IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE NEUTRON GRENADE SHOULD INDEED BE PRODUCED, BUT NOT YET STORED IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. IN THIS WAY WASHINGTON HOPED TO INTIMIDATE THE EAST BLOC, ALTHOUGH EUROPEAN PESSIMISTS BELIEVE THAT THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES WOULD BE STIMULATED BY THIS THREAT TO TURN UP THEMSELVES WITH THEIR OWN NEUTRON BOMB. THE NEUTRON GRENADE IS THE NEWEST ATTRACTION IN THE FIELD OF BIOLOGICAL DESTRUCTION, AND THERE ISN'T YET ANY REAL FORM OF DEFENSE AGAINST IT. ANYWAY, EVERY DISCOVERY OF A FORM OF DEFENSE AGAINST ITS CONCENTRATED AND INTENSE RADIOACTIVE RADIATION WOULD ONLY COME INTO THE POSSESSION OF THE ARMIES; FOR THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE POSSIBLE BATTLE AREA OF HIGHLY-POPULATED WESTERN EUROPE NOTHING WILL REMAIN BUT FLYING CANCER. QUITE APART FROM ALL POLITICAL AND TRATEGIC CONSIDERATION IT WAS THE PRIMITIVE AND INSTINCTIVE DISGUST IN REGARD TO THIS SORT OF 'FREEDOM WEAPON' WHICH CAUSED THE INTENSE REACTIONS IN OUR COUNTRY. IN VAIN.

6. THIS COULD HAVE BEEN FORESEEN. A DUTCH VOICE LIKE
THIS ISN'T HEARD, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T
SUMMON THE COURAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL STATE
TO EXPRESS THE DISGUST OF MILLIONS OF DUTCH PEOPLE AS
BEING ITS OWN.

7. A REAL POLITICIAN IS NEVER DISGUSTED, HIS JOB
DOESN'T ALLOW OF THAT."
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